

Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

UNCLAS ISTANBUL 1034

FOR CLARK EUR/EX FROM MACE

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TAGS: APER, TU

SUBJ: PERSONNEL MATTERS IN ISTANBUL

REF: (A) ANKARA 1919, (B) ISTANBUL 859, (C) STATE 63242

1. FOR YOUR INFORMATION WITH A VIEW TO OBTAINING YOUR PERSONAL ASSISTANCE IN EFFECTING A MORE ORDERLY RESTAFFING OF IMPORTANT POSITIONS IN CONGEN ISTANBUL, THERE FOLLOWS A RECAPITULATION OF PERSONNEL PROBLEMS RESULTING FROM THE HEAVIEST TURNOVER I HAVE EXPERIENCED IN MY FOUR YEAR TOUR IN ISTANBUL.

A. CONSULAR SECTION: AS POINTED OUT IN AMEMB ANKARA 1919 (REF A) IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT AT LEAST ONE OF THREE SUBORDINATE OFFICERS HAVE PREVIOUS OVERSEAS EXPERIENCE IN CONSULAR WORK, PREFERABLY PROTECTION AND WELFARE ACTIVITIES. OUR CONSULAR WORK LOAD IS HEAVY, VARIED, AND DIFFICULT AND NEEDS MORE DEPTH OF EXPERIENCE THAN APPARENTLY PROVIDED BY TWO CURRENTLY ASSIGNED, NEW APPOINTED FSO'S -- KEPCHAR AND VAN EVERY. CONCURRENTLY PROTECTION AND WELFARE POSITION (CURRENTLY OCCUPIED BY DAVID BLOCH, FSO-5) DESERVES UPGRADING TO ACCOMMODATE CANDIDATE WITH REQUIRED EXPERIENCE.

B. ADMIN SECTION: IN JUNE AND JULY WE WILL EXPERIENCE A COMPLETE TURNOVER OF OFFICER PERSONNEL IN THE ADMIN SECTION. BY ISTANBUL 0859 (REF B) WE ATTEMPTED CITE NECESSITY THAT CAPABLE ADMIN OFFICER BE ASSIGNED WITH ETA HERE LATE JUNE TO REPLACE HUMBORG, PRESENT ADMIN OFFICER, PARTICULARLY SINCE GSO ASSIGNED TO ARRIVE
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IN JULY IS FIRST TOUR OFFICER WITHOUT PREVIOUS ADMIN EXPERIENCE.

PROBLEMS OF MAINTAINING ESSENTIAL ADMIN SUPPORT FOR UNUSUALLY LARGE NUMBERS OF DEPARTING AND ARRIVING PERSONNEL HAS NOW BEEN MADE EVEN MORE DIFFICULT WITH RECENT NOTICE OF IMPENDING TRANSFER OF RSO MARIANO, DUE HL MID-JUNE. TO DATE WE HAVE NO INFO RE REPLACEMENTS FOR HUMBORG OR MARIANO.

C. COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS UNIT: BY STATE 63242 (REF C) CASEY, FSR-6, OUR HIGHLY COMPETENT C&R OFFICER, IS TRANSFERRED TO JIDDA WITH A SCHEDULE REQUIRING HIS ETD ISTANBUL EARLY JUNE. REPLACEMENT O'NEIL FROM HELSINKI HAS ETA ISTANBUL 7/76, INDICATING GAP OF MINIMUM ONE MONTH UNLESS CASEY IS HELD OVER OR O'NEIL SCHEDULED EARLIER ARRIVAL. DURING INTERVENING PERIOD OPERATIONS WILL BE STAFFED BY RECENTLY ASSIGNED LYDIA ALLEN, FSS-9, AND ROSEMARY KEOUGH, FSS-4, ETA LATE APRIL OR MAY. HOPEFULLY, IF GAP CANNOT BE SHORTENED, REQUESTS FOR TDY ASSISTANCE IF URGENTLY REQUIRED, WILL BE MOST SYMPATHETICALLY CONSIDERED SINCE I BELIEVE UNIT CANNOT OPERATE WITH TWO PEOPLE, ONE OF WHOM WILL BE SETTLING IN WITH AN ELDERLY DEPENDENT.

2. FOREGOING SUBMITTED DESPITE DG'S RECURRENT REMINDER RE GAPS DURING TURNOVER SEASON BECAUSE OF MY CONCERN, ENTIRELY OBJECTIVE DUE MY IMMINENT RETIREMENT, THAT THIS CONGEN CONTINUE EFFECTIVE PERFORMANCE AND BECAUSE I KNOW YOU SHARE THAT CONCERN FOR ALL EUR POSTS.
MACE

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